

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 DOTE-00

EPA-04 HEW-06 HUD-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-02 OIC-02 PA-02 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 USIA-15 /105 W

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

UNCLAS VIENNA 6767

FOR EUR/RPM: CAMPBELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CCMS, SENV, AU

SUBJECT: SAFETY BELT LAW AND USAGE SURVEY

REF: STATE 180684

1. SECOND AMENDMENT TO AUSTRIAN MOTORING LAW (FEDERAL LAW GAZETTE NO. 286/1974) MAKES INSTALLATION OF SAFETY BELTS MANDATORY FOR OUTER FRONT SEATS OF PASSENGER CARS AND STATION WAGONS TYPE-CERTIFICATED OR INDIVIDUALLY-CERTIFICATED AFTER JANUARY 1, 1968 AS WELL AS FOR TRUCKS WITH A MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE WEIGHT OF UP TO 3,500 KILOGRAMS ADMITTED TO TRAFFIC AFTER OCTOBER 1, 1975. FOR PASSENGER AND STATION WAGONS CERTIFICATED BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 1968 AND MARCH 31, 1975, INSTALLATION OF SAFETY BELTS BECAME MANDATORY EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 1975. THE LAW WENT INTO EFFECT ON JULY 1, 1974.

2. DRAFT THIRD AMENDMENT TO AUSTRIAN MOTORING LAW, WHICH IS CURRENTLY PENDING BEFORE PARLIAMENT, CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS CONCERNING USE OF SAFETY BELTS: IF A SEAT IS EQUIPPED WITH SAFETY BELTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH MOTORING LAW, DRIVER AND OCCUPANTS OF SUCH SEATS ARE OBLIGATED TO USE THEM

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APPROPRIATELY. FAILURE TO DO SO ESTABLISHES CO-LIABILITY

FOR RESULTS OF AN
ACCIDENT IN WHICH ONE OF THE USERS OF THE CAR IS KILLED OR
INJURED. NO SUCH CO-LIABILITY EXISTS IF INJURED PARTY OR HIS
LEGAL SUCCESSOR PROVES THAT EFFECTS OF SAME GRAVITY WOULD ALSO
HAVE OCCURRED HAD SAFETY BELTS BEEN USED.

3. FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM MINISTERIALRAT
DIPL.ING. JOSEF HASELBERGER, SEKTION IV, BUNDESMINISTERIUM
FÜR VERKEHR, KARLSPLATZ 1, A-1010 VIENNA, AUSTRIA. BUCHANAN

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